MD-430 Cecil County

A Navy training facility active from the early 1940s until 1976 when it closed. Job Corps programs were active from 1978 to 1990.

Areas of concern include an inactive landfill, a dry cleaner, building demolition areas, a sewage treatment plant, a FTA and underground storage tanks.

Two removals under CERCLA were accomplished (1994-95): the FTA and the old landfill cap. 400 buildings were demolished and rubble placed in a permitted rubble landfill on-site.

Studies at the sewage treatment plant have been completed and removal of sludge and demolition of the plant occurred in 1997.

A Preliminary Assessment and Site Investigation have been completed and a draft final RI was submitted in August 1997. The EBS is complete.

The site is planned to be transferred to the State.

BAINBRIDGE NAVAL TRAINING CENTER Port Deposit, Maryland (Federal Facility)

Site Location

The former Naval Training Center (NTC) is sited on approximately 1,250 acres just north of the Port Deposit town limits, approximately three miles west of Interstate 95 on the north bank of the Susquehanna River. The NTC is bordered to the south by US Route 222 and the town of Port Deposit, to the west by Maryland Route 276, and to the north and east by rural, unincorporated areas of Cecil County.

Site History

The NTC was in operation from early 1942 until closure in 1976. The facility was partially deactivated following World War II. During the Korean conflict, the NTC underwent another period of major activity. In the post-war years, the NTC became the host for various schools and functions. Throughout the years, the base was never involved in any significant industrial activities. By 1972, the Navy again began reducing operations, and on June 30, 1976, the NTC was formally closed. From 1978 until 1990, the Department of Labor sponsored a Job Corps Center at NTC.

Several activities during the active use of the base had the potential to impact the environment and public health. These activities include burial of drums and disposal of waste oils, solvents, paint residues, pesticides, and unspecified material in the base sanitary landfill, and discharge of miscellaneous combustible materials during training exercises at the Fire Training Area (FTA).

Environmental Investigations

During 1994-95, the Navy capped the old landfill and removed volatile organic compound (VOC) and pesticide contaminated soil at the former FTA. In 1995, the EPA became actively involved at the site due to requirements under the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act. Residential wells near the two sites were sampled by the County Health Department and MDE in the Spring of 1993. No VOCs were detected in any of the wells that were sampled. The Remedial Investigation (RI) indicates the presence of VOCs above the maximum contaminant level (MCL) at the former landfill. VOCs are present at the FTA but the concentrations are below the MCLs.

In a separate action, nearly 400 old buildings were demolished, and the resulting rubble, which contained asbestos products, was placed into a newly permitted rubble landfill on the NTC. Final regulatory acceptance of the building demolition sites, which are contaminated with asbestos, is pending.

The remaining sludge at the sewage treatment plant has been removed and the plant was dismantled in early 1997. The Navy removed miscellaneous containers, conducted a general site clean-up of debris and cataloged remaining potential wastes in February 1997.

Current Status

A removal action is being conducted at two areas (the old substation and the old water treatment plant) to address PCB-contaminated soils and sediments. The MDE and EPA issued a document entitled <u>Position Paper on Property Transfer</u> in 1995. In response to this Position Paper, the Navy's contractor updated the Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) in early 1997. Task II of the EBS, which discussed environmental sampling at several Areas of Concern, was submitted to MDE for review in July 1997. The EBS must be

approved by EPA prior to property transfer. Closeout of underground storage tank issues at the old filling station and abandonment of monitoring wells will be addressed outside of the Position Paper. The Navy submitted a draft final version of the RI report in 1997. EPA ecological risk issues need to be addressed before the final version of the RI report can be completed.

Future Activity

The Navy must still remove the remaining soil and transite in the building demolition areas. That removal is anticipated to take one year. The Navy is also considering two disposal options for the material: opening up the on-site landfill or off-site disposal. On-site disposal will trigger State permitting requirements which would significantly increase the Navy's current on-site disposal cost estimate.

Additional sampling will include sampling for lead paint around the water towers, groundwater sampling at the former dry cleaning facility, soil sampling at the coal storage area and the former pesticide shop. Repairs to the old landfill cap should begin in mid-1998.

Facility Contacts

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Site Repositories

Cecil County Library
Port Deposit Branch
64 South Main Street
Port Deposit MD 21904

Perryville Branch
510 Broad Street
P.O. Box 21903
Perryville MD 21903